

STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO  
GOVERNOR

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May 8, 2007

The Honorable Timothy S. Bee  
Senate President  
Arizona State Senate  
1700 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1132: homeland security force

Dear President Bee:

Today I vetoed Senate Bill 1132, which would have established a volunteer homeland security force under the direction of a new "homeland security committee," that would be separate from the Arizona National Guard and that the governor could call in the event of an emergency.

This bill is unnecessary because other long-established provisions of Arizona law already give the governor the power to call on a volunteer militia to supplement the efforts of the National Guard. *See, e.g.,* Ariz. Const. Art. XVI, § 1 ("The militia of the state of Arizona shall consist of all capable citizens of the state between the ages of 18 and 45 years, and of those between said ages who shall have declared their intention to become citizens of the United States, residing therein ..."); *id.*, § 2 (differentiating the militia referenced in section 1 from the "organized militia" or the Arizona National Guard); A.R.S. § 26-122(A) ("The militia is divided into the national guard of Arizona, the state guard when organized, and the unorganized militia."); *id.*, § 26-122(E) ("The unorganized militia consists of members of the militia not members of the national guard or state guard when organized.").

Moreover, the governor already has the specific statutory right to call the unorganized militia into service of the state in times of emergency. *See* A.R.S. § 26-124 (A) ("When the governor proclaims an emergency, and, upon advice of the adjutant general, determines that the national guard does not have sufficient troops to meet the emergency, the governor may authorize the adjutant general to accept for service from the unorganized militia a specified number of volunteers.").


In light of these provisions, Senate Bill 1132 is redundant, and its creation of a new "homeland security committee" is unnecessary. Adding a further class of citizen militia to be

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established under the direction of a committee is inefficient and would only cause confusion with existing law.

For these and other reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 1132.

Yours very truly,



Janet Napolitano  
Governor

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cc: The Honorable Jim Weiers  
The Honorable Jack Harper